

**Consultation on the Safer Lambeth
Violence Against Women and Girls
Strategy 2021-2027**

Consultation Report [19th August 2020]

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Lambeth's current Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy runs until 2020. We conducted a consultation which was co-produced with experts by experience to create the next 2021-2027 strategy. This will be the third VAWG strategy in Lambeth and the consultation with experts by experience, residents and practitioners was to inform our priorities, goals, and commitments.

1.2 Our proposals

Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is a key priority of the Safer Lambeth Partnership. It is also a firm political priority.

Lambeth is considered a leading authority on VAWG. We were one of the first boroughs to publish a VAWG strategy, and our VAWG community service, the Gaia Centre, is seen an exemplar of good practice.

We consulted to inform the contents of our next the Lambeth Made Safer Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy for 2021-2027.

The key objectives of the strategy will be to:

- set out the success achieved under the 2016-2020 approach and areas that remain a challenge
- set out the current scale of the problem of VAWG in Lambeth, regionally and nationally
- capture the voice and experience of service users, residents, and stakeholders
- outline the priority VAWG areas and outcomes
- set out the role of the council and key partners in tackling VAWG
- inform and make a commitment to commissioning of specialist VAWG provision and provide outline of what will be commissioned

We ran a co-produced consultation as we want the voices and expertise of service users, residents, and stakeholders to inform and help us shape our next strategy.

The consultation consisted of an online open survey for residents and practitioners, focus groups for Lambeth practitioners from a range of statutory and voluntary services in the borough, and 121 telephone interviews with those with lived experience of VAWG.

2. The consultation

2.1 Consultation objectives

We consulted to better understand what Lambeth residents, people affected by VAWG, practitioners and other stakeholders consider to be most important elements needed to provide a high quality VAWG support in Lambeth.

This was to inform the development of the next Safer Lambeth Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy. We wanted to ensure that Lambeth residents across the borough had the opportunity to have their say and contribute to the development of VAWG services. We wanted to include a range of perspectives from include people involved with the statutory, voluntary and community sectors to ensure that the new strategy reflects the current experiences of residents, survivors, and stakeholders. The aim of the consultation was to

ensure that the strategy was co-produced with those that have used our services and that it incorporated the voices that are seldom heard and who are often marginalised from decision making.

For **residents / people affected by VAWG** – to establish:

- What support services they have used in the past (if any)
- What the key barriers were in accessing support
- Their views on support they have previously received
- What impact services had on their lives
- The most important things that various agencies should do for people affected by VAWG.
- Ideas for the most important activities for us to do as a borough in the next three years.

For **practitioners/services** – to establish:

- What works well / doesn't work well in Lambeth in tackling VAWG?
- What our priority areas should be
- What the gaps in service provision are
- Where there are areas of duplication
- Suggestions for improvement
- Ideas for the most important activities for us to do as a borough in the next six years.

An Equality Impact Assessment will be conducted as part of the commissioning process that this strategy informs.

2.2 Who we consulted

We commissioned an independent organisation to consult with a wide range of residents and practitioners from statutory and voluntary services. We spoke to those who had lived experience of VAWG and who had used commissioned and non-commissioned specialist support services in Lambeth.

2.3 When we consulted

In February 2020 Lambeth Council co-produced the structure of this consultation with experts by experience that were recruited through specialist VAWG services. We worked together to create the content of the consultation and questions to be asked.

The online consultation survey went live on 2nd March and was open for the 6-week period, however promotion of it ceased after three weeks due to Covid-19 and increased pressures on services.

The original consultation period was 2nd March – 9th April 2020, but this was extended to 10th June 2020 to allow additional 121 interviews with those with lived experiences of VAWG. The final report was received on 19th August 2020.

How we consulted

- An online open survey for Lambeth residents and practitioners
- Four focus groups with Lambeth stakeholders/partners from a range of statutory and voluntary services.

- 121 phone interviews with those with lived experience of VAWG from a range of service providers (commissioned and other organisations).

2.3.1 Press activity

- The online open survey was promoted via social media

2.3.2 Digital activity

The online survey was distributed via:

- Targeted emails
- Consultation page
- Lambeth Talk
- Lambeth Weekender
- Lambeth Council Twitter
- Lambeth Council Facebook
- Love Lambeth blog
- Yammer
- The bulletin

2.3.3 Print activity

N/A

2.3.4 Event activity

Consultation was promoted via existing forums

3. Responses from members of the public

3.1 Summary of results

We had survey participation and 121 interview engagement from residents and their input has formed the basis of our next Lambeth Made Safer VAWG Strategy priorities, goals, commitments, and actions. This will be published in April 2021.

3.2 Summary of post code analysis and demographics

Due to the nature of the strategy the report contents are confidential.

3.3 Additional comments

We had survey participation and 121 interview engagement from residents and their input has formed the basis of our next Lambeth Made Safer VAWG Strategy priorities, goals, commitments, and actions. This will be published in April 2021.

4. Responses from statutory bodies and other stakeholders

We had survey participation and focus group attendance from practitioners and their input has formed the basis of our next Lambeth Made Safer VAWG Strategy priorities, goals, commitments, and actions. This will be published in April 2021.

5. Next steps

The Lambeth Made Safer VAWG Strategy 2021-2027 will be published in April 2021.

Appendices: List of stakeholders consulted

External

- All Lambeth residents
- The Gaia Centre
- Africa Advocacy Foundation
- Black Thrive
- Solace
- Asha
- Galop
- Rape Crisis
- Spires
- The Havens
- Victim Support
- RedThread
- The Beth Centre
- Lambeth College
- LEAP
- Fulfilling Lives
- Cassandra Centre
- Rape Crisis
- Survivors
- Respeito
- Freedom Programme participants
- GPs
- Advocacy Academy
- Housing Associations
- Health Visitors
- Tulse Hill Early Help pilot
- Healthwatch
- Disability Advice Service Lambeth
- DWP/ job centre
- Lambeth Living Well Network Hub
- Schools and colleges
- Stockwell Community Service
- Citizen’s Advice Lambeth
- Outreach services
- Mother and baby units
- St Giles Trust
- Family Nurse Partnership
- My Social Lambeth
- Homelessness Day Centres
- Toucan Employment
- Deaf Hope
- Youth Centres
- Midwifery teams
- SLaM addictions
- Faith groups
- Police – safeguarding teams
- Faiths Together in Lambeth
- Foster carers
- Community Rehabilitation Company
- St. Michael’s Fellowship
- National Probation Service

Internal

- Housing (housing options, residents services and supported accommodation pathway)
- Children’s Social Care
- Early Help
- Adult’s Social Care
- Children’s Centres
- Youth Offending Service
- Public Protection
- CCG
- Events
- Regeneration services
- Sexual Health services – inc. Brook, Rise, and Metro
- Councillors